

Children's Cabinet Meeting

September 24, 2018

Rhode Island
CHILDREN'S CABINET



Agenda

- ▶ Welcome, Introductions, & Announcements
- ▶ Adoption of minutes
- ▶ 3rd Grade Reading Challenge Update & Discussion
- ▶ Summer 2018 Presentations
- ▶ School Surveys
- ▶ Public Discussion

National Governor's Association Technical Assistance Grant

- ▶ RI Children's Cabinet is one of five states to receive the opportunity
- ▶ With 14-months of technical assistance, the RI Children's Cabinet looks forward to:
 - ▶ Supporting the FY2019 **Third Grade Reading Action Plan**
 - ▶ Identifying **best practices** for Children's Cabinets nationwide
 - ▶ Identifying and implementing **sustainable strategies** to maximize interagency collective impact

Rhode Island's Third Grade Reading FY19 Action Plan



Reading by Third Grade is Critical

Reading proficiently by the end of third grade is a crucial indicator in a child's development.

- ▶ Students who are competent readers are more likely to perform well in other subjects.
- ▶ Students who do not read at grade level in third grade are four times more likely to drop out of high school than those who do.
- ▶ Nearly 60% of boys and young men in prison could not read at a third-grade level when they committed crimes.

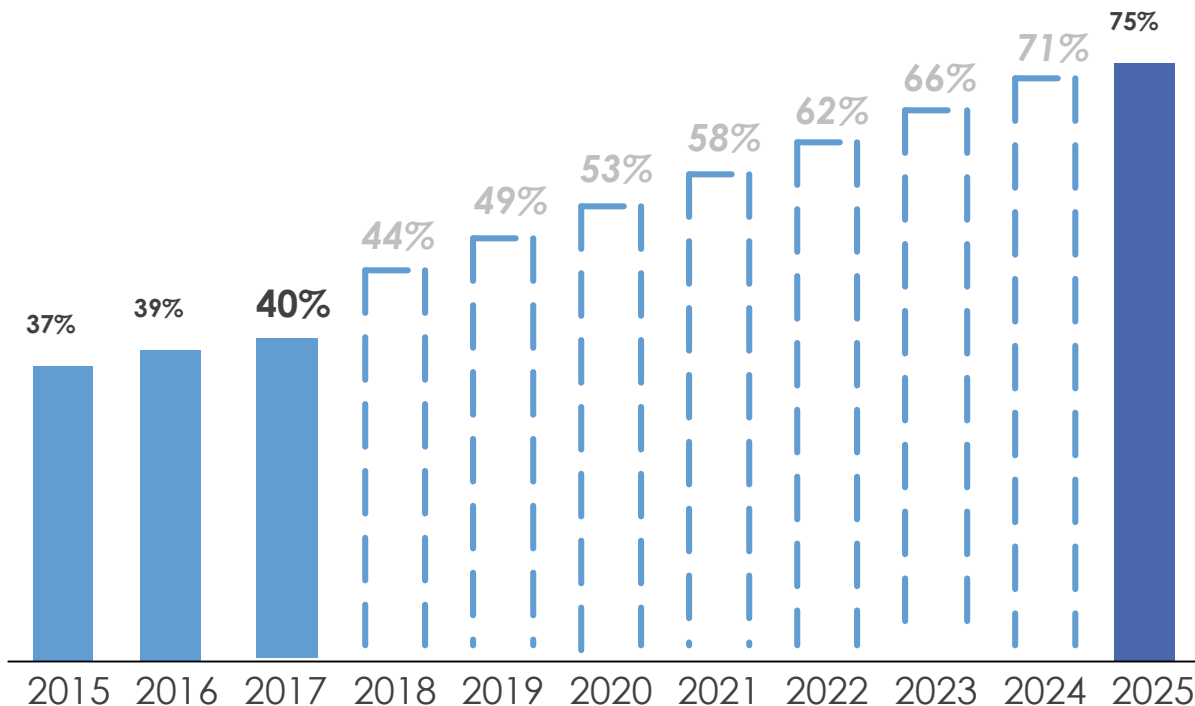
Rhode Island's economy demands that more children be on track to be proficient readers.

- ▶ The current pool of qualified high school graduates is neither large enough nor skilled enough to supply our nation's workforce, higher education, leadership and national security needs.
- ▶ Every student who does not complete high school costs an estimated \$260,000 in lost earnings, taxes and productivity.
- ▶ 70% of jobs will require at least an associates degree, but only 45% of Rhode Islanders have any type of college degree.

Just over one-third of Rhode Island third graders are reading on grade level

Governor Raimondo has set a goal to double state-wide third-grade reading proficiency in eight years

While closing significant achievement gaps



In 2018, RI began using a new test – the RI Comprehensive Assessment System (RICAS). The goal will be reviewed in context of this new exam.

RI Third Graders Meeting Expectations on the PARCC 3rd Grade ELA Exam

Subgroup	2016-17
Students with Disabilities	16%
English Language Learners	12%
Hispanic Students	24%
Low-Income Students	25%
Black Students	27%
All Students	40%

Rhode Island Is Ready to Improve

Long-Standing Commitment to Setting Strategic Priorities and Achieving Goals



Community Expertise, Engagement and Contributions



Early Leadership and Investments by Governor Raimondo

- ▶ The Starting Right Child Care System Plan
- ▶ The Successful Start Early Childhood Systems Initiative
- ▶ The Race to the Top – Early Learning Challenge

- ▶ RI Campaign for Third Grade Reading
- ▶ Early Learning Council
- ▶ Successful Start Steering Committee
- ▶ Engaged Research Partners

- ▶ Reconvened RI Children's Cabinet
- ▶ All-Day Kindergarten State-Wide
- ▶ Expanded Access to Pre-K
- ▶ Home Visiting Act Signed into Law
- ▶ Investments in Child Care Quality

Necessary factors for success

Investments this year will start Rhode Island down the path of improving literacy. However, there is more work to do to achieve our goals. To be successful, we will need sustained work from now through 2025.

- ▶ **Strong engagement from the Children's Cabinet and outside advocacy groups**
- ▶ **Commitment to data-driven management** for state programs and at local districts to measure and monitor progress consistently and provide quarterly opportunities for data-informed course corrections.
- ▶ **Willingness to annually reassess the plan** to ensure proposed objectives and actions are working, to add new items, and to replace ineffective strategies.
- ▶ **Opportunity to advocate for new budget investments**, which are determined to be cost effective and necessary for success



THE ACTION PLAN FISCAL YEAR 2019

Goals: by 2025, 75% of third-graders in Rhode Island will be reading at grade level

Governor Raimondo's Third Grade Reading Action Plan focuses on four specific and complementary strategies aimed at doubling the state's third grade reading proficiency level in eight years:



School Readiness: Ensure all children are ready to learn in school by *addressing health determinants and providing access to high quality early learning.*



School Success: Provide all children with high-quality literacy instruction in and out of school.



Safety Net Services: Effectively serve young children at high-risk with state-wide screening, referral and response system.



Community Engagement: Engage family and community members with a year-round campaign to prepare their children for school and for success in school.

Continuum

School Readiness (early health and learning)



School Success (engaging literacy instruction)

Safety Net Services (Timely screening, referral and response)

Robust Family and Community Engagement

To date, the Action Plan has helped to bring about big wins for kids and families.

School Readiness

\$3.6M

In Additional FY19
Investments to increase
Quality Child Care

School Success

70

Kindergarten classrooms
piloting a proven
curriculum

Safety Net Services

500,000

Approximate number
of meals served
in summer 2018

Community Engagement

4,828

Free, quality books
distributed to kids
at State offices



Key Working Groups for FY19

Pre-K Expansion

Cara Harrison, Governor's Office

- Apply for the PDG opportunity
- Support development and implementation of universal Pre-K in RI

Adverse Risk Mitigation

Blythe Berger, RIDOH

- Implement recommendations from the DCYF-RIDOH study with Harvard GPL
- Continue to address lead poisoning through increased screening, treatment, and prevention

Early Childhood Data Working Group

Kayla Rosen, Children's Cabinet

- Review use and integration of ECE data
- Support near-term needs
- Recommend long-term vision for improvement and sustainability

Early Childhood Workforce & Career Pathways

Caitlin Molina, DHS

- Collaborate with higher education institutions to increase professional development opportunities and improve teacher certification programs

Highlights From the Core Team

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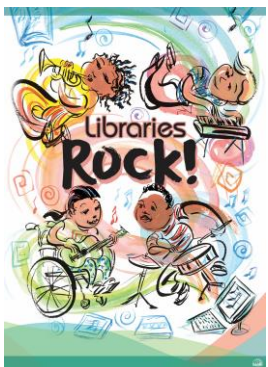
Robust Family and Community Engagement

Summer 2018

Summer Reading 2018 – Office of Library and Information Services

The Summer Reading Program (SRP) is a cooperative effort among libraries in Rhode Island to motivate children and teens to read for pleasure and to help them maintain their reading skills during the summer months.

Circus Dynamics at the Barrington Public Library, Providence Journal 8/7/18



Highlights from Summer 2018:

- ▶ All 71 public libraries and the Meeting Street School offered a SRP.
- ▶ 8 libraries and 5 mobile library stops were summer meal sites. 2 libraries provided outreach to summer meal sites in their community.
- ▶ Not just a reading program! Libraries offered STEAM programming, provided connected learning opportunities for teens, and engaged families through all ages events and adult summer reading programs.

Ideas for Summer 2019:

- ▶ Increase and enhance public library/school partnerships.
 - ▶ "SRP completion increased by 114% when we partnered with the schools to option our program as their summer reading assignment." – Warwick Public Library
 - ▶ "The school department has mandatory summer reading and many just choose to do the school and not the library seeing it as extra work or redundant." – Woonsocket Harris Public Library
- ▶ Look for new opportunities for collective impact.

Children's Book Spot/Take a Book Books Are Wings

Program Goal: The Take A Book Program gives children, families and care providers continuous access to diverse, age-appropriate books to take home and keep.

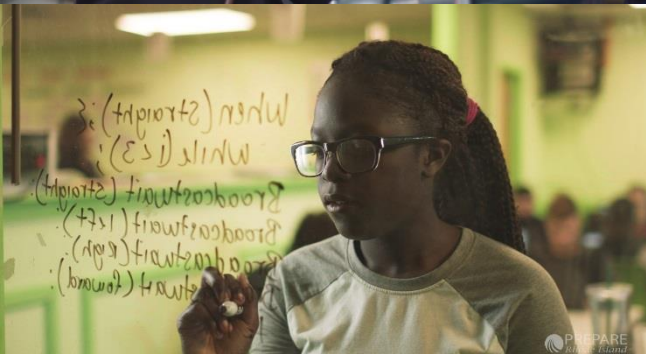


Books Are Wings introduced new programming this summer, including the partnership with the Children's Cabinet:

- ▶ 4,828 books have been distributed
- ▶ 4 Sites: DHS Pawtucket, DHS Providence, DMV Cranston, & DCYF Providence
- ▶ MOST BOOKS TAKEN - Ages Birth to 5

Ideas for Summer 2019:

- ▶ Add additional site locations: Woonsocket, Newport, South County
- ▶ Add additional information for families; including program opportunities, tips for reading at home, other Book Spot locations.

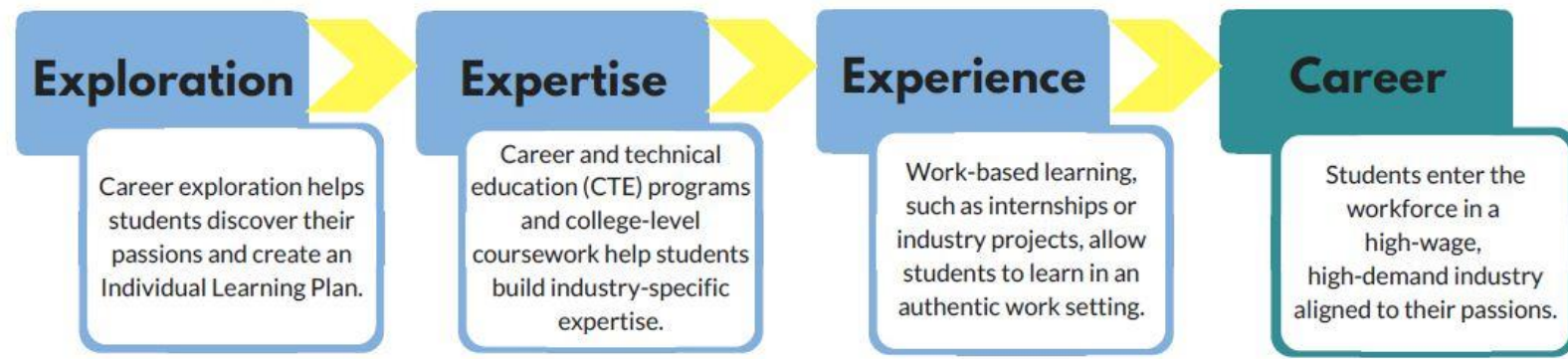


If you have the **passion**,
we have a **pathway**

www.Prepare-RI.org

What is PrepareRI?

- A statewide strategy to prepare all Rhode Island youth for success in college and career
- A strategic partnership between government, employers, private industry leaders, K-12 education, higher education, and non-profits across Rhode Island
- An initiative funded, in part, by the New Skills for Youth Grant from JPMorgan Chase and the Council of Chief State School Officers (CCSSO)



PrepareRI Goals for 2020

<u>Priority</u>	<u>Goals for 2020</u>
Employer engagement	All career pathway programs will be aligned to Rhode Island's high-demand career fields
Diploma Plus	Over half of high school students will graduate with college credit or an industry credential
Work-based learning	All high school students will have access to work-based learning at their school
Career & Technical Education (CTE)	Half of high school students will participate in a CTE program
Counseling and career exploration	All students in grades 6-12 will have individual learning plans (ILPs), informed by students' experiences in career exploration programming
Outcome-focused accountability	Agencies will use data on students' college and career outcomes to evaluate schools and programs
Aligned funding	Align funding streams around a common strategy for building career pathway programs for all students
Outreach and professional learning	All schools in the state will participate in PrepareRI professional learning

Accomplishments to Date

Career Exploration

- Piloted **statewide Career Fair for over 2,000 8th grade students** with Junior Achievement
- Revamped **Individualized Learning Plans** for students in 6-12

Academic Expertise

- 150% increase in Dual and Concurrent enrollment since 2015
- Through **CS4RI**, all schools now have computer science classes
- 56% growth in **CTE programs** since 2015
- State funding now only for CTE programs in **high-wage, high-demand industries**
- \$1.2M awarded to districts to **close equity gaps in CTE**

Work-Based Learning

- Established statewide vision, definition, and standards for **work-based learning**
- 10 industry sector partnerships (through **Real Jobs RI**) directly work with youth
- Around 1600 youth participated in **paid summer work-based learning** through Real Jobs, Real Pathways, and Real Skills for Youth partnerships
- Piloted statewide **PrepareRI Internship program**

GWB Youth Investments in Career Readiness and Work-Based Learning

→ \$4.5 million total

- **Real Skills for Youth** partnerships to provide paid summer work-based learning and year-round career readiness programming for youth
- **Real Jobs** and **Real Pathways** investments for summer work-based learning, specific to industry and targeting at-risk, opportunity youth
- **PrepareRI Internship program** to provide paid summer internships to high school juniors at top RI companies

Real Skills for Youth

Goal:

- Form strategic partnerships among schools, youth-serving organizations, industry, and others to develop and implement high-quality paid summer work-based learning experiences, and year-round career readiness programming for youth.

Background:

- Builds off the long-standing Summer Youth Employment program
- The GWB released a grant solicitation to directly fund partnerships.
- Expanded the scope of the grant solicitation to support year-round career readiness programming for tighter connections between summer work-based learning and what students learn in school.

Real Skills for Youth

Partnerships:

- Awarded 10 partnerships
- Served 1300 youth in summer and about 2500 youth during the school year
- Additional investments in Real Jobs and Real Pathways partnerships provided paid work-based learning to an additional 300 youth

Activities:

- All youth had to complete career readiness preparation (ex. resume writing, interview skills, career exploration, financial literacy, rights on the job)
- All youth had to complete at least 80 hours of paid work-based learning
 - Internships at local employers
 - CTE exploration
 - Industry-based projects
 - Service learning projects

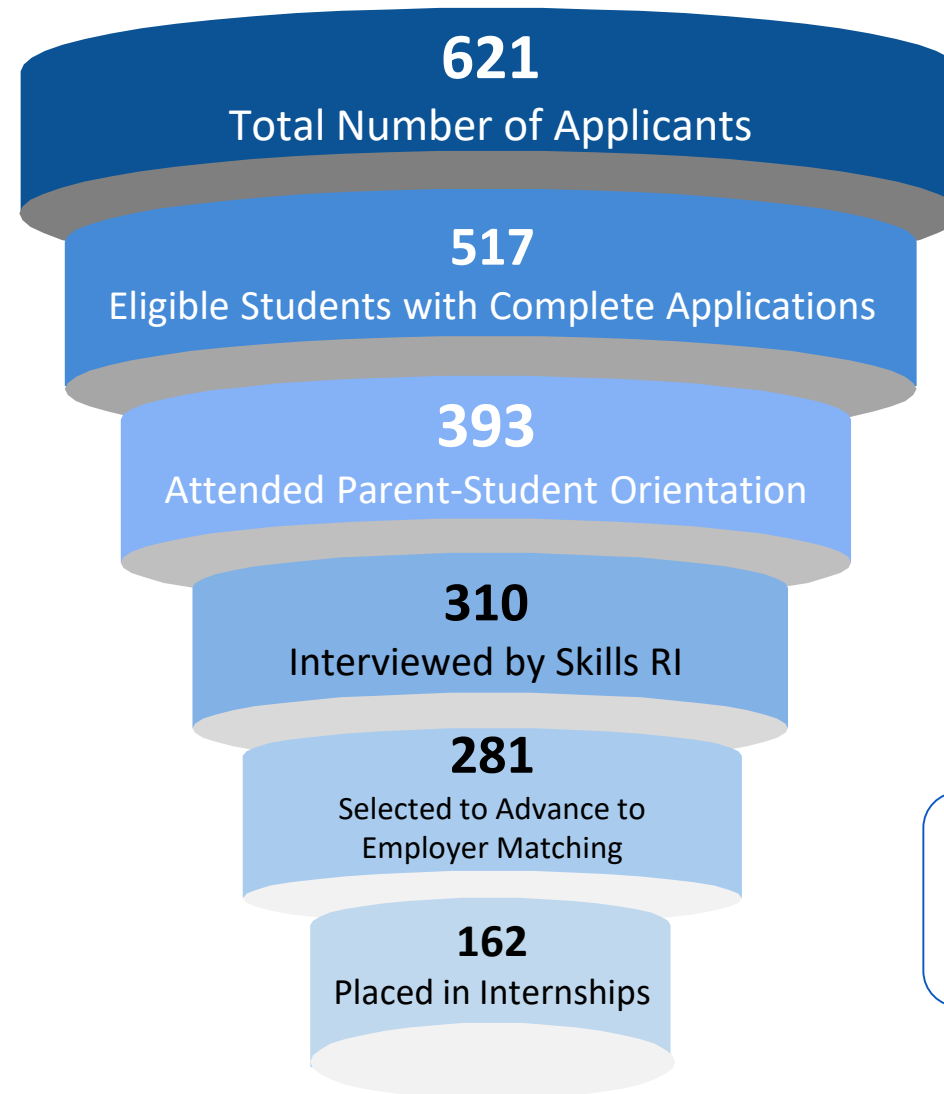
PrepareRI Internship Program

- Fully funded by the RI Governor's Workforce Board
- Eligibility: students must be 16+ and entering 12th grade in a RI public school in fall 2018
- An outside intermediary – Skills for Rhode Island's Future – vetted and matched students to internship placements based on fit, preparedness, and skill.
- 162 students placed in paid summer internships with top employers
- Internships lasted 6-8 weeks, 25-35 hours per week
- Interns earned 6 college credits in addition to wages

Employer Partners



Intern Selection Process Overview



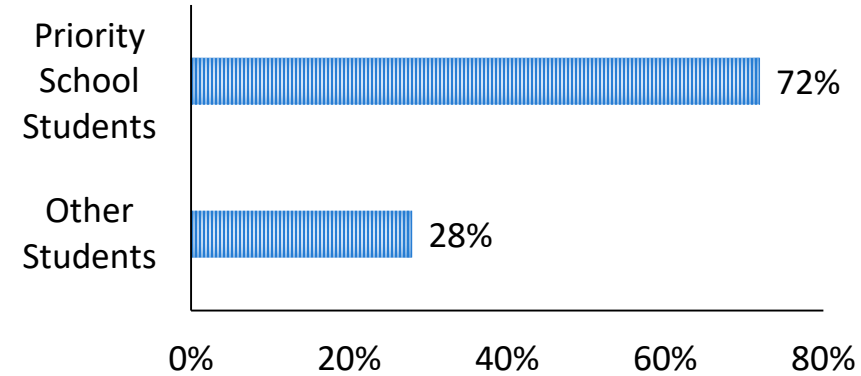
- **61** Incomplete Applications
- **51** Students Withdrew
- **2** Applicants Not Eligible

Candidate Snapshot

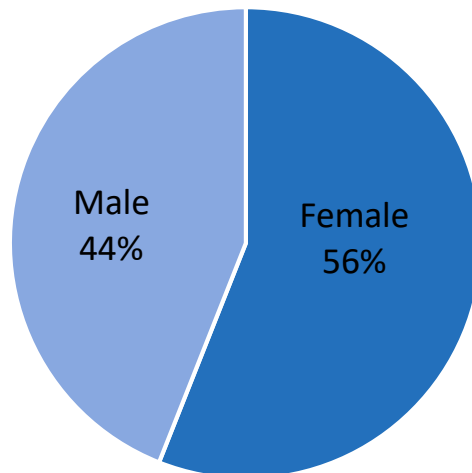
Applicants

AGE RANGE: 16 - 21

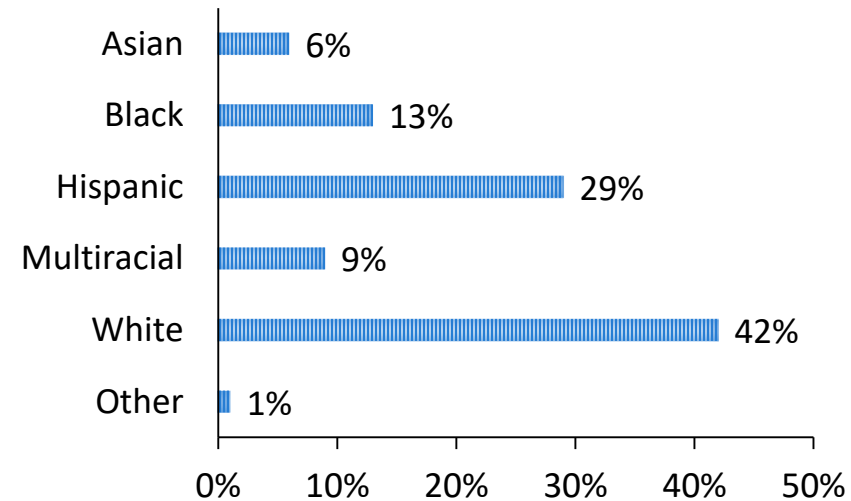
MEDIAN AGE: 17



GENDER



RACE/ETHNICITY

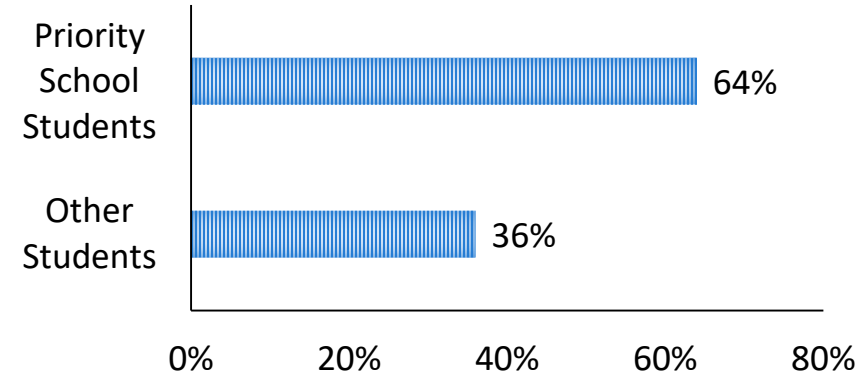


Candidate Snapshot

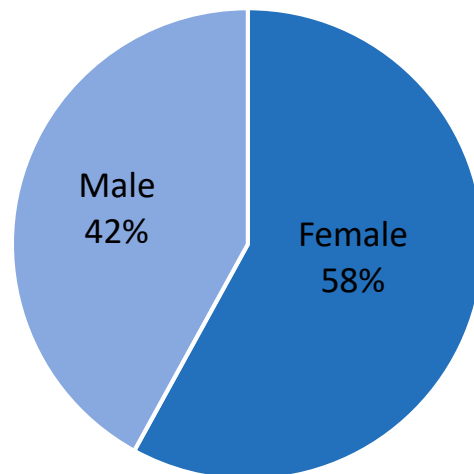
Students Placed in Internships

AGE RANGE: 16 - 18

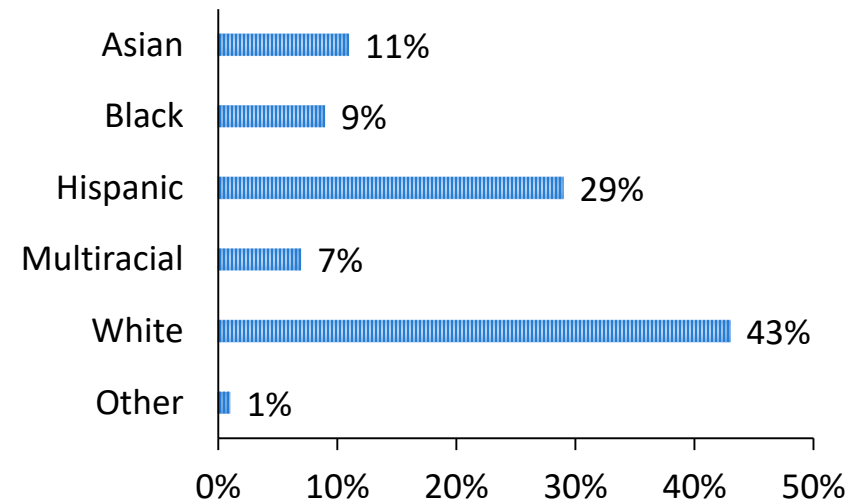
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GENDER



RACE/ETHNICITY



Future Plans

- **Double the PrepareRI Internship program for Summer 2019**
- **Continue to improve Real Skills for Youth programming**
 - Stronger connections to high-wage, high-demand industries
 - Stronger link with schools and year-round learning
 - High-quality work-based learning activities
- **Continue youth career pathways conversation in GWB sub-committees**
 - *Career Pathways Advisory Committee*: focus on K-12 students, transition to postsecondary, equity
 - *Education and Employment Advisory Committee*: focus on opportunity youth (disconnected from school and work)

School Surveys

School surveys are an opportunity to hear directly from young people about their experiences.

- ▶ **The State conducts two surveys every year:** SurveyWorks and either the Youth Risk Behavior Survey (YRBS) OR the Rhode Island Student Survey. This year, it will be SurveyWorks and YRBS.
- ▶ **This is a way to hear directly from young people:** These surveys allow students to share their experience and their voice so we can craft policy that is more responsive to their needs
- ▶ **We make decisions based on young people's responses:** The state and our partners in the community are using this data in meaningful ways.

SurveyWorks

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Survey Goal: SurveyWorks is administered annually to all Rhode Island public school students, families, and educators. It collects information on the holistic educational experience of our stakeholders, from academic expectations and physical safety to parent engagement and professional learning for educators.

Our Survey Findings Showed:

Across all surveys, many stakeholders indicated they did not think missing two days of school a month would be a serious problem.

- ▶ Only 38% of students in grades 6-12 said it would significantly impact their ability to graduate.
- ▶ 55% of parents/guardians said it would significantly impact their child's ability to graduate.
- ▶ Only a small majority of educators – 61% - said it would significantly impact a student's chance of graduating.

There is a precipitous drop in student satisfaction between elementary and secondary school.

- ▶ In the SEL category, responses went from 68% to 54% favorable between the grades 3-5 and 6-12 surveys.
- ▶ In the school belonging category, responses went from 61% to 34% favorable between the surveys.

And as a Result:

RIDE and our partners in the field are changing policy and practice to improve school attendance.

- ▶ RIDE has made this a priority for schools by including measures of both student and teacher chronic absence in our system of school accountability. We also built The Attendance Tool, an online platform to track and support attendance.
- ▶ Hennessey Elementary, our Attendance Tool pilot school, analyzed this data and decided to rethink their parent outreach strategy, allowing for more school-day opportunities in response to parent feedback.

We are incorporating Social and Emotional Learning into our overall academic strategy.

- ▶ RIDE hosted a SurveyWorks forum to discuss the SEL data, in particular, with students sharing their perspectives on the school culture and climate issues that impact them most.
- ▶ The Council on Elementary and Secondary Education endorsed SEL standards for all Rhode Island schools.

Youth Risk Behavior Survey (YRBS)

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Survey Goal: The YRBS is administered to a sample of RI public middle & high schools, in odd years, to measure the prevalence of health behaviors, monitor trends, examine the co-occurrence of behaviors, and determine what subpopulations of students are at greatest risk.

Our Survey Findings Showed:

1 in 3, or 35.1% of Rhode Island high school students went hungry in the past month because there was not enough food in their home.

- ▶ Black and Hispanic students are more likely to report having food insecurity in the past month compared to White students.
- ▶ Food insecurity was more prevalent among LGB students, and gender-expansive students compared to heterosexual and gender conforming students.

Mental health and suicidal ideation are concerns among Rhode Island youth.

- ▶ 18% of **middle school** students **ever** seriously considered suicide, and 12% **ever** made a suicide plan. 7%, or 1 in 13 middle school students have attempted suicide in their **lifetime**.
- ▶ 16% of **high school** students seriously considered suicide, and 14% made a suicide plan **in the past year**. 11%, more than 1 in 10 high school students, have attempted suicide **in the past year**.

And as a Result:

- ▶ 2017 Rhode Island YRBS estimates were one data source to inform Governor Raimondo's Hunger Elimination Task Force Draft Recommendations.
- ▶ YRBS data have identified disparities in many categories for LGB and gender-expansive youth. Data have supported ongoing collaboration with Youth Pride and other organizations to meet the needs of this population.
- ▶ RIDOH's Youth Suicide Program relies on Youth Risk Behavior Survey data to gauge the burden of suicidal ideation among Rhode Island middle and high school students.
- ▶ YRBS data are key to engaging stakeholders because, while the overall numbers of youth suicide in Rhode Island are relatively low (on average, less than 20 deaths each year), the YRBS data illustrate how common it is for RI middle and high school students to struggle with suicidal thoughts.

RI Student Survey (RISS)

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Survey Goal: To gather data on the knowledge, practices, and attitudes of middle and high school students toward health risk behaviors in order to develop initiatives to prevent substance use and misuse among youth.

Our Survey Findings Showed:

- ▶ Continued high rates of alcohol consumption with high school students
- ▶ The overall 2016 RI Student Survey administration resulted in municipal level policy change



And as a Result:

- ▶ Used RISS and other data to apply for discretionary funds targeting underage drinking and received funding award (Partnership for Success II)
- ▶ Municipalities will incorporate RISS data as part of their needs assessment
- ▶ RISS data will be used by municipalities to prioritize issues within their communities
- ▶ It has become the practice of municipalities to review RISS data to determine how to spend their funds

Public Discussion